

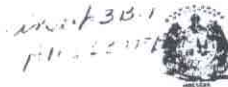
MLK EXHIBIT F-575

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Martin Luther

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Thank you.

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ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT COURT FOR CRIMINAL CAUSES
DIVISION NO. 22
MERCANTILE COURTS BUILDING
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103
MURRY L. RANDALL, SPECIAL JUDGE

MLK Ex F575
CONFIDENTIAL

Congressman Louis Stokes;
Chairman, House Select Committee on Assassinations;
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Your Committee has subpoenaed me
to testify publicly in a matter
concerning one Russell Byers.
Byers, who is known here to be one
of the most dangerous criminals
in this city. He has received a lot
of publicity here in recent months.
Just a few months ago, in the
course of an on-going investigation
here of him by the F.B.I. and police

HSCA VII



ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT COURT FOR CRIMINAL CAUSES
DIVISION NO. 22
CLERK OF COURT: JOHN J. HARRIS
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63101
HARRY J. HARRIS, CLERK OF COURT

With respect to assaults on one
Finer and related matters, it was
reported in the Public Press that
his principal associate in crime
was murdered almost immediately
after the associate visited an
F.B.I. office. I believe that this
man's murder was arranged by
the person to whom he and Mr. Byers
had sold the Statutes stolen from the
museum, and Mr. Byers is now
fearful that this publicity is classing
him an informant and the same
fate will occur to him.

ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT
CLERK
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HARRY J.

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Mr. Byers
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I believe my public testimony,
 and that of Mr. Byers' will endanger
 lives including my own.

Yet my testimony is of no real
 value to your investigation. The
 remarks Mr. Byers made to me,
 while representing him in a civil case
 (I never represented him in any
 Criminal matter), occurred several
 months after similar remarks
 by Mr. Byers had been reported
 to the F.B.I.

Mr. Byers has told me that
 this report was made by one Richard
 O'Hare, a thin criminal partner

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ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT COURT FOR CRIMINAL CAUSES
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JAMES H. HAY, JUDGE, CLERK
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102
MURPHY, HARRISON, SPECIAL INQUIRY

of Byers. As with most stories fabricated by criminals, these remarks only involved dead persons.

At about the time these remarks were reported to the F.B.I., Mr. Byers expressed serious concern to me as to whether Mr. Byers was an F.B.I. informant. I believe these remarks by Mr. Byers were fabricated and purposely planted with Mr. O'Hara for the purpose of trying to find out whether Mr. O'Hara was an F.B.I. informant, since the only person the F.B.I. could possibly check with was Mr. Byers himself. The F.B.I.



ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT COURT
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apparently recognized such and did not Byers, as to do so endangered the life

Mr. Byers told me his story to me of preparing a representation of what he was questioning

Mr. Byers is a person. I urge the F.B.I. before and after testimony and interfere with their in 1945; Judge William Webb Director F.B.I.



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apparently recognized them as such and did not interview Mr. Byers, as to do so would have endangered the life of its informant.

Mr. Byers then, I believe, told the story to me for the purpose of preparing me for possible representation of him in the event he was questioned by the F.B.I.

Mr. Byers is such a sceming person. I urge you to check with the F.B.I. before endangering lives with such testimony and also whether it will interfere with their investigation.
Very truly,
Director F.B.I. Murray L. Randall